

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE BUILDING CODE REVIEW BOARD

Minutes of Meeting

November 3, 2006

Attendance:

Robert Clegg, Chairman, Department of Safety

Rick Swain, NH Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Assoc., mechanical contractor, business

John Tuttle, NH Home Builders Association, Architectural designer - residential

Wayne A. Richardson, NH Building Officials Association, municipal building official

Thomas S Lambert, Chief, NH Association of Fire Chiefs, Municipal Fire

Mark Weissflog, NH Electrical Contractors Business Assoc., licensed master electrician

Jerry Tepe, Board of Architects, licensed architect

Joel Fisher, Board of Engineers, licensed structural engineer

Michael Santa, CBO, Governor's Commission on Disability, Architectural barrier/free design

Tedd Evans, Board for Licensing and Regulation of Plumbers, licensed master plumber

Excused:

James Petersen, PE, Board of Engineers, licensed mechanical engineer

Fred Baybutt, Associated General Contractors, building contractor - non-residential bldgs.

Absent:

Mark Tibbetts, NH Association of Fire Chiefs, municipal volunteer fire chief

Laura A. Black, PE - Board of Engineers, licensed electrical engineer

Thomas Malley, Bureau of Electrical Safety and Licensing, licensed master electrician

Med Kopczynski, NH Municipal Association

Wes Golomb, NH Vocational Technical School, Laconia, NH

Guests:

Marta Modigliani, Legal Counsel, Office of the Commissioner, Dept of Safety

J. William Degnan, State Fire Marshal, Division of Fire Safety

Richard Canfield, Chocorua, NH

Chairman Clegg declared the meeting open with a quorum of Board member present.

GENERAL MEETING:

Adoption of the meeting minutes from October 13, 2006

Tedd Evans made the **Motion** to adopt the meeting minutes from September 8, 2006. **Motion** was **Seconded** by Tom Lambert. Vote was taken. Minutes were **adopted** by a vote of the Board members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Penalty provision of RSA 155-A:

Marta reported that Wynn Arnold is reviewing the document. The Chair said that on the advice from the Attorney General we should proceed with emergency rules because there should be enforcement.

Possibility of Code Amendment to establish a standard definition for potable water for private wells:

Tedd Evans reported that the sub-committee met this morning. A couple of representatives from the State attended as well as from the private sector. A lot of the concerns were touched on about the lack of standards for potable water. They will be meeting again and try to pursue some avenue for correcting that. There were no questions or discussion from the Board. The sub-committee will meet once a month until it can be resolved.

Discussion of the Modular Home Industry:

Chairman Clegg introduced Mr. Canfield. Mr. Canfield gave some examples to the Board on some of the issues faced. Mr. Canfield showed the structure report. He found a dip in the roof, and the floor plan was not what they ordered. The Company came out and made a repair to the roof by taking out one of the ridge poles so the roof panels would lay in place. It was illegal for them to remove the poles. They sistered the 2x6's to the 2x4's. Did not connect them to the ridge, nor did they connect them to the LVL (laminated shoulder beam) - they were just hanging, adding even more weight to the roof. When the building left the factory they were supposed to have been shipped with a snow load capacity of 69.3 pound snow load capacity. It was under 50 pounds the engineer told him. The contractor who built the addition, which was plum and level, noticed that the back of the house tipped out about a half an inch. And then they found out that the floor was not level. The Laminated Beam, the main support beam down the center of the house, had been cut and damaged. The shoulder beam was found to be undersized. Three out of 4 corners of the house are not plumb. Two are 1/2 inch in 6 feet - and one is 3/8's of an inch in 6 feet. Parts of the house had no insulation and when a portion of the sheathing was pulled off - a hole was found in the floor in which an electrical junction box was found. This house has electrical problems, structural problems, insulation problems, cosmetic problems, and the floor plan is not what was ordered, and the ceilings are bowed. When the house was delivered there was no main carrying beam. The building was put on the foundation without it. Mr. Canfield will be doing an energy audit of the house because of missing insulation. The modular company never advised of another contractor to fix their problems.

Deleted:

The question was posed as to who would be held responsible if there are code violations found.

Any modifications made after the house leaves the factory must be approved and stamped by both the manufacturer and the 3rd party doing the modifications - not necessarily by an engineer. Any structural modifications made have to be stamped by an engineer.

Exhibit 18 - Amendments to the International Building Code - 2006:

Jerry Tepe said that the sub-committee will be meeting immediately following the Board meeting, as the Chair for the committee, Med, should be here at that time. There is no report from the sub-committee at this time.

Exhibit 22 - Amendments to the International Residential Code - 2006:

John Tuttle reported that the sub-committee met and discussed some possible amendments to the IRC - one for instance is the window sill requirement being 24 inches off the ground. He did some research on child deaths from windows and needs to do more on the subject matter.

Report HUD standards/code same as the IBC codes:

Wayne Richardson reported that HUD is operating under its own standards for manufactured housing. A lot mirrors what is in the IRC - but a lot does not, such as egress doors. Jerry reported that in HUD's view if you complied with the IRC it was equivalent to their standards. Chairman Clegg asked Tom Lambert to check into getting some statistical information on firefighter fatalities on doors being too small and/or doors, or do they just not go in?

NEW BUSINESS:

The Chair brought up a suggestion for members to think about regarding the adoption of the existing building code. Do we want to propose legislation on this? Or let locals do it on their own?

There was no further New Business to be brought before the Board at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no Other Business to be brought before the Board at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting recessed.